WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A receiving apparatus, comprising:

receiving means for receiving streaming contents through a network;

5   power detecting means for detecting an instruction of a power off from operation instructing means;

controlling means for, in response to an output from the power detecting means indicating detection

10   of the power off, controlling the receiving means to periodically receive during the power off the streaming contents that are received by the receiving means immediately before the power off; and

accumulating means for accumulating data of the

15   streaming contents that are periodically received during the power off.

2. A receiving apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controlling means includes

20   metainformation detecting means for detecting metainformation of the streaming contents that are received by the receiving means, and controls the receiving means using the metainformation of the streaming contents that are received by the receiving

25   means immediately before the power off.

3. A receiving apparatus according to claim 2,

wherein the metainformation includes address
information indicating a location on the network of a
server that distributes the streaming contents.

5   4. A receiving apparatus according to claim 2,
wherein the metainformation detecting means obtains
the metainformation from predetermined guide
information related to the streaming contents.

10   5. A receiving apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein the controlling means includes a timer that
generates a timing signal at a predetermined period,
and controls the receiving means in response to the
timing signal generated by the timer during the power
15   off.

6. A receiving apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein the controlling means controls the receiving
means to periodically receive predetermined amount of
20   data of the streaming contents.

7. A receiving apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein:
        the power detecting means further detects an
25   instruction of a power on; and
        in response to an output indicating detection
of the power on, the controlling means reads the data

of the streaming contents which is accumulated in the
accumulating means.

8. A receiving apparatus according to claim 7,
further comprising data processing means for
processing the data of the streaming contents read
from the accumulating means, and outputting the data
to a monitor device.

9. A receiving apparatus, comprising:
receiving means for receiving streaming
contents through a network;
outputting means for outputting the streaming
contents to a monitor device;
detecting means for detecting an instruction of
a monitor stop for the streaming contents;
controlling means for, in response to an output
from the detecting means indicating detection of a
monitor stop, controlling the receiving means to
periodically receive during the monitor stop the
streaming contents that are received by the receiving
means immediately before the monitor stop; and
accumulating means for accumulating data of the
streaming contents that are periodically received
during the monitor stop.

10. A receiving apparatus according to claim 9,

wherein the controlling means includes

metainformation detecting means for detecting

metainformation of the streaming contents that are

received by the receiving means, and controls the

5   receiving means using the metainformation of the

streaming contents that are received by the receiving

means immediately before the monitor stop.

11.   A receiving apparatus according to claim 10,

10   wherein the metainformation includes address

information indicating a location on the network of a

server that distributes the streaming contents.

12.   A receiving apparatus according to claim 10,

15   wherein the metainformation detecting means obtains

the metainformation from predetermined guide

information related to the streaming contents.

13.   A receiving apparatus according to claim 9,

20   wherein the controlling means includes a timer that

generates a timing signal at a predetermined period,

and controls the receiving means in response to the

timing signal generated by the timer during the

monitor stop.

25

14.   A receiving apparatus according to claim 9,

wherein the controlling means controls the receiving

means to periodically receive predetermined amount of data of the streaming contents.

15. A receiving apparatus according to claim 9, wherein:

the detecting means further detects an instruction of a monitor start; and

in response to an output indicating detection of the monitor start, the controlling means reads the data of the streaming contents which is accumulated in the accumulating means.

16. A receiving apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the instruction of the monitor stop is outputted when contents outputted to the monitor device is switched from the streaming contents into other contents than the streaming contents.

17. A receiving apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising a tuner for receiving a television broadcast,

wherein the other contents include a television broadcast program received by the tuner.

18. A receiving apparatus according to claim 9, wherein:

the detecting means further detects an

instruction of a monitor start for the streaming
contents; and

in response to the instruction of the monitor
start, the controlling means reads the data of the

5   streaming contents which is accumulated in the
accumulating means, and outputs the data to the
monitor device.

19.   A receiving apparatus, comprising:

10   receiving means for receiving streaming
contents through a network;

controlling means for, based on predetermined
guide information related to plural sets of the
streaming contents, controlling the receiving means

15   to periodically receive the plural sets of the
streaming contents in parallel; and

accumulating means for accumulating data of the
plural sets of the streaming contents that are
periodically received.

20

20.   A receiving apparatus according to claim 19,
wherein the controlling means includes
metainformation detecting means for detecting
metainformation of the streaming contents that are

25   received by the receiving means, and controls the
receiving means using the metainformation of the
streaming contents that are received by the receiving

means immediately before a power off.

21. A receiving apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the metainformation includes address information indicating a location on the network of a server that distributes the streaming contents.

22. A receiving apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the metainformation detecting means obtains the metainformation from the predetermined guide information.

23. A receiving apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the controlling means includes a timer that generates a timing signal at a predetermined period, and controls the receiving means in response to the timing signal generated by the timer.

24. A receiving apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the controlling means controls the receiving means to periodically receive predetermined amount of data of the plural sets of the streaming contents in parallel.

25. A receiving apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the controlling means starts to receive the plural sets of the streaming contents at a power on.

26. A receiving apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising outputting means for selectively outputting the streaming contents and other contents to a monitor device,

wherein the controlling means controls the receiving means to periodically receive the plural sets of the streaming contents during a period when the outputting means outputs the other contents to the monitor device.

27. A receiving apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the controlling means controls the receiving means to periodically receive the plural sets of the streaming contents during a power off of the receiving apparatus.

28. A receiving apparatus which receives arbitrarily selected streaming contents through a network by receiving means, and outputs the received streaming contents to a monitor device in an audiovisually enjoyable form, the receiving apparatus comprising:

estimating means for estimating and determining a streaming contents preference to be selected from plural sets of the streaming contents based on a user profile;

controlling means for controlling the receiving means to periodically receive the streaming contents preference determined by the estimating means, during a power off; and

5   accumulating means for accumulating data of the streaming contents preference that is periodically received.

29.   A receiving apparatus which receives

10   arbitrarily selected streaming contents through a network by receiving means, and selectively outputs the received streaming contents and other contents to a monitor device in an audiovisually enjoyable form, the receiving apparatus comprising:

15   estimating means for estimating and determining a streaming contents preference to be selected from plural sets of the streaming contents based on a user profile;

controlling means for controlling the receiving

20   means to periodically receive the streaming contents preference determined by the estimating means during a period when the other contents are outputted to the monitor device; and

accumulating means for accumulating data of the

25   streaming contents preference that is periodically received.

30. A receiving apparatus which receives arbitrarily selected streaming contents through a network by receiving means, and outputs the received streaming contents to a monitor device in an

5   audiovisually enjoyable form, the receiving apparatus comprising:

estimating means for estimating and determining a streaming contents preference to be selected from plural sets of the streaming contents based on a user

10   profile;

controlling means for, in response to a power on, controlling the receiving means to periodically receive the streaming contents preference determined by the estimating means; and

15   accumulating means for accumulating data of the streaming contents preference that is periodically received.

31. A receiving apparatus according to claim 28,

20   further comprising user profile generating means for generating the user profile based on an audiovisual enjoying history of the streaming contents audiovisually enjoyed on the monitor device.

25   32. A receiving apparatus according to claim 28, wherein the estimating means performs estimation on the streaming contents again when the user profile is

renewed.

33. A receiving apparatus according to claim 28, wherein: the estimating means determines a plurality
5 of the streaming contents preferences; and
     the controlling means controls the receiving means to periodically receive the plurality of the streaming contents preferences in parallel.

10   34. A receiving apparatus according to claim 33, wherein the accumulating means accumulates data of the plurality of the streaming contents preferences in parallel.

15   35. A receiving apparatus according to claim 29, further comprising user profile generating means for generating the user profile based on an audiovisual enjoying history of the streaming contents and the other contents audiovisually enjoyed on the monitor
20 device.

36. A receiving method for receiving streaming contents through a network, the receiving method comprising:
25   in response to an instruction of a power off, periodically receiving during the power off the streaming contents that are received immediately

before the power off; and

accumulating in accumulating means data of the streaming contents that are periodically received during the power off.

5

37. A receiving method for receiving streaming contents through a network and outputting the streaming contents to a monitor device, the receiving method comprising:

10   in response to an instruction of a monitor stop for the streaming contents, periodically receiving during the monitor stop the streaming contents that are received immediately before the monitor stop; and

accumulating in accumulating means data of the

15 streaming contents that are periodically received during the monitor stop.

38. A receiving method for receiving streaming contents through a network, the receiving method

20 comprising:

based on predetermined guide information related to plural sets of the streaming contents, periodically receiving the plural sets of the streaming contents in parallel; and

25   accumulating in accumulating means data of the plural sets of the streaming contents that are periodically received.

39. A receiving method for receiving arbitrarily selected streaming contents through a network by receiving means, and outputting the

5 received streaming contents to a monitor device in an audiovisually enjoyable form, the receiving method comprising:

estimating and determining a streaming contents preference to be selected from plural sets of the

10 streaming contents based on a user profile;

periodically receiving the streaming contents preference determined, during a power off; and

accumulating in accumulating means data of the streaming contents preference that is periodically

15 received.

40. A receiving method for receiving arbitrarily selected streaming contents through a network by receiving means, and selectively

20 outputting the received streaming contents and other contents to a monitor device in an audiovisually enjoyable form, the receiving method comprising:

estimating and determining a streaming contents preference to be selected from plural sets of the

25 streaming contents based on a user profile;

periodically receiving the streaming contents preference determined during a period when the other

contents are outputted to the monitor device; and

accumulating in accumulating means data of the streaming contents preference that is periodically received.

5

41. A receiving method for receiving arbitrarily selected streaming contents through a network by receiving means, and outputting the received streaming contents to a monitor device in an

10 audiovisually enjoyable form, the receiving method comprising:

estimating and determining a streaming contents preference to be selected from plural sets of the streaming contents based on a user profile;

15   in response to a power on, periodically receiving the streaming contents preference determined; and

accumulating in accumulating means data of the streaming contents preference that is periodically

20 received.